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PRESS RELEASE

Chaghcharan Municipality to Provide Priority Projects for City Residents

CHAGHCHARAN, AFGHANISTAN | JULY 27, 2011 — Residents of Chaghcharan will enjoy improvements in the city center upon completion of a park and two kilometers of sidewalks to be built across from the education department, and installation of 50 concrete garbage bins around the city. The park and sidewalks, identified as a priority by the municipal office, will provide a green space for all city residents where their children can play in a clean, safe location. Garbage bins will further enable the municipality to keep the city free from litter.

USAID is providing funding and engineering technical assistance to the project, which will start construction in July 2011. Local elders and sub-district heads were consulted during the project identification and the final projects were decided upon in close cooperation with them.

Today, US government officials joined Governor of Ghor H.E. Dr. Aqahi Abdullah Hawaid, Mayor of Chaghcharan H.E. Mohammad Osman Esmat, respected officials from the Independent Directorate of Local Governance, municipal staff, and residents of Chaghcharan to celebrate the groundbreaking of the new municipal project.

"We are pleased to partner with USAID on these projects for the people of Chaghcharan. The park will provide a safe, green space for all city residents and the sidewalks will enable people to walk through the streets more easily," said Mayor Esmat at the groundbreaking. "We look forward to implementing more services in partnership with USAID, and we will look to residents to tell us what their priorities are, so we can deliver more effective municipal services to them."

USAID provides support to municipalities through its Regional Afghan Municipalities Program for Urban Populations project, which began in the Western region provinces of Hirat, Badghis, Farah, and Ghor in 2011.

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